Muzzleloading Musts

1. Read and understand and be willing to follow all instructions and warranty limitations in this booklet before loading or shooting your muzzleloader.

2. Always treat any firearm as if is loaded.

3. Always wear both eye and ear protection when loading or firing.

4. Be sure of your target and what is behind it before firing. Do not point your gun at anything you do not intend to shoot and be sure that all bystanders are behind you.

5. Use only the proper grade of black power or Pyrodex® in properly measured amounts. Use between 5 to 10 grains of 3f black powder or the Pyrodex equivalent.

6. Never smoke or permit others to do so in the presence of black powder or Pyrodex. Avoid drugs and alcoholic beverages before and during shooting.

7. Be certain the powder and projectile are loaded in proper sequence and are firmly seated to insure no air space between the base of the barrel, powder and projectile.

8. Shooting patches are not required for this pistol.

9. Never load powder into your gun directly from a can, horn or flask. Use a separate measuring device. A remaining spark in the barrel may cause accidental ignition of the powder being loaded.

10. Use .310 diameter round lead ball only.

11. Do not rely on the half-cock notch as a safety. A drop or any hard blow may cause the hammer to fall and possibly fire the gun.

12. Never place a cap on the nipple of a percussion gun until you are ready to fire. Any bump or accidental pressure on the hammer or trigger may result in an unintentional discharge of the firearm resulting in a dangerous accident.

13. Never climb, jump or move abruptly while carrying a loaded firearm.

14. Never transport in a vehicle or store a loaded gun. Always store the powder and gun in separate places.

15. In the event of a misfire, assume the gun could fire at any moment. Keep gun pointed down range. Wait at least one minute before recapping.

Important Notes

Cut along dotted line and mail to:

TRADITIONS™
PERFOMANCE MUZZLELOADING
P. O. Box 776
Old Saybrook, CT 06475

The Muzzleloading Sport

In recent years more and more sportsmen have been returning to the historical days of muzzleloading. For both hunting and target shooting, these guns are helping a modern generation recapture and enjoy an important part of our nation's past.

Traditions muzzleloading replicas are faithful in design to their eighteenth century forebearers. Although they are manufactured to modern standards for safe and enjoyable shooting. However, they can be quite dangerous if proper shooting and safety procedures are not always followed.

This booklet is a basic guide for the proper loading, shooting and maintenance of your Traditions replica muzzleloader and to offer important rules and precautions for the safe handling and shooting of this type of firearm. In addition to this booklet, it is recommended that a person new to muzzleloading obtain further competent information and instruction before firing a muzzleloader.

Some Sources For Additional Help:

1. Your town clerk, state Department of Environmental Protection or conservation department can give you the name of the person or organization in your area offering hunter safety courses. Many of these courses include sections on muzzleloading and are excellent training for the beginning shooter.

2. Contact a local muzzleloading gun club in your area. Club members will be pleased to help introduce you to enjoyable shooting. A list of clubs in your area may be obtained from:
National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association
P. O. Box 67
Friendship, Indiana 47021

3. The following excellent booklets are available from the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association at the above address:
"The Muzzleloading Rifle Handbook"
"The Muzzleloading Pistol Handbook"

P. O. Box 776
1375 Boston Post Road
Old Saybrook, CT 06475
Phone 860-388-4656 Fax 860-388-4657

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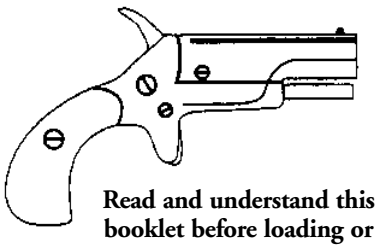
TRADITIONS™
PERFOMANCE MUZZLELOADING

Warranty & Shooting Instructions



Read and understand this booklet before loading or firing your muzzleloader

Booklet must accompany the muzzleloader. If this muzzleloader is sold or given to another person, additional copies are available free from *Traditions*

Loading and Shooting Instructions

For reasons of safety and proper performance, these loading instructions must be followed closely. While the procedures may seem cumbersome, they will, with practice, soon become routine and will make for safe, dependable and accurate shooting. It is very helpful to have an experienced black powder shooter with you for the first few times you load and shoot.

Follow These Instructions In Their Sequence:

1. Always wear eye and ear protection.

2. Determine that the gun is unloaded. To do so, insert a ramrod down the length of the barrel and mark it flush with the muzzle. Remove the ramrod and lay it alongside the barrel. The reference mark should be even with the end of the muzzle. If the gun is unloaded, the bottom end of the ramrod should be even with the base of the nipple. If there is an obvious difference in depth, the barrel is probably either obstructed or loaded. To remove the obstruction, obtain the assistance of an experienced shooter or gunsmith. Do not attempt to clear the barrel by firing.

3. With the gun pointed in a safe direction, set the hammer in the half-cock (first position). It should not be possible to make the hammer fall from this position even with strong pressure on the trigger or hammer. If this is not the case, do not proceed until the problem has been corrected by a competent gunsmith or by returning the gun for service.

4. Test the full-cock (second click) position to ensure that the hammer will stay in this position only until moderate pressure is applied to the trigger. Also, the hammer should stay in the full cock position regardless of any force applied to the rear of the hammer. If this is not the case, do not proceed if this full cock position is not secure.

5. Set the hammer on half-cock. Open the barrel by rotating it to the left. Check the nipple to see if it is secure. Tighten, if necessary using a properly sized nipple wrench.

6. Before loading anything into the barrel it may be necessary to clean all oil and grease from inside the barrel. Fire two or three #11 percussion caps. This will clear any residue out of the nipple and barrel channel. Point the gun at a leaf, blade of grass or any other lightweight object on the ground. If by firing the cap, the object is moved, the barrel is clear and ready for loading.

7. Position for loading:
Never work with your face or any part of your body over the muzzle, even when the gun is unloaded.

8. Loading the powder:
Maximum load 10 grains.
Use only black powder or Pyrodex®. Do not overload. It is not safe and will decrease accuracy. Pour the powder from an approved shooter's powder measure into the barrel and, with your hand, tap the sides of the barrel to ensure that all the powder falls to the bottom of the barrel.
Caution: Never load powder directly from any container, flask or powder horn into the barrel, because a lingering spark from a previous firing could ignite the powder entering the barrel and cause the container to explode.

9. Loading a .310 diameter lead ball:
Place the ball on the muzzle with the slight projection, or "sprue," facing upward. With a ball starter, place the short shaft on top of the ball and drive the ball downward, into the muzzle. With the longer shaft of the ball starter, drive the ball deeper into the barrel and firmly seat it on top of the powder.
Caution: Any gap between powder and ball is a dangerous situation and could cause a burst barrel.
Caution: Do not use any type of shooting patch with a round ball.
Caution: A projectile which does not enter the barrel under pressure may not stay seated on top of the powder.

10. Marking the ramrod:
With powder, and ball now properly and firmly loaded into the barrel, insert the ramrod into the barrel and mark it at the point where the ramrod is flush with the muzzle. In the future, this mark will serve to indicate that the barrel is loaded.

11. Capping and cocking:
Move the hammer to the half-cock position. Turn the barrel to the left and expose the nipple. With the gun pointed in a safe direction, place a #11 percussion cap on the nipple.Securely close the barrel. With the gun continuously pointed in the direction in which you wish to fire, move the hammer to the full cock position. The gun is now ready to fire.

12. Fire:
To fire, aim at target and pull the trigger. After firing, wait at least one minute before reloading to ensure that no spark remains in the barrel.
a. If the percussion cap fails to fire, remove it and replace it with a new cap.
b. If the cap fires but the main charge fails to fire, keep the gun pointed toward your target and wait one minute. By doing so, you will be prepared for the chance of delayed ignition, also called "hangfire." Then, place another percussion cap on the nipple and fire again.
c. If ignition still does not result, wait another minute, and with the gun pointed in a safe direction, remove the percussion cap and remove the nipple with a properly sized nipple wrench. Verify that the hole in the nipple is not blocked. Also, verify that there is powder in the barrel. This can be done by looking into the hole in which the nipple goes.
d. If none of the above corrects the situation, the load must be removed from the barrel. At this point, the beginning shooter should ask for the help of an experienced shooter with the proper tools.

13. Removing the load:
With the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, and the nipple removed, carefully empty the powder through the nipple hole. After all the powder is emptied from the barrel, use a narrow rod and push the ball out through the muzzle.

Cleaning and Maintenance

Black powder and Pyrodex are both very corrosive and leave considerable residue in the barrel. For proper shooting and protection, your gun must be cleaned frequently by using the simple methods below.

After a few shots you may notice a difficulty in introducing a ball, place a cleaning patch dampened with bore cleaning solvent on the end of a ramrod and run it vigorously through the barrel several times to remove the fouling. Follow-up with a dry patch or two to remove any moisture. Resume shooting.

As soon as possible after you finish firing, your gun must be thoroughly cleaned. To leave a gun uncleaned, even overnight, can result in serious and damaging corrosion. A simple cleaning procedure is as follows:

1. Remove the nipple from a percussion gun. With a cleaning patch on the ramrod, pump soapy water or a black powder solvent down the muzzle end and out the nipple hole.

2. Wipe the exterior surfaces of the barrel and the rest of the gun with a cloth dipped in the same solution.

3. Rinse the barrel with hot water and immediately dry the entire gun.

4. When the gun is dry, treat all metal surfaces, with a light coating of a rust preventative gun oil or Traditions Wonder Lube 1000 Plus™.

5. Store the gun, percussion caps and powder in separate cool dry places out of the reach of children.

Muzzleloading Accessories

In order to participate fully in the sport the purchase of several accessories mentioned is advised. These can be obtained at most well stocked gunshops. A catalog of those accessories offered by Traditions is available from the factory upon request.
Safety or shooting glasses and ear protection: These are definite "musts" and are most important accessories to have. They should be used at all times. Ear protectors can be either simple ear plugs or the head set-type which fully cover the ears.
Percussion caps: #11 Caps fit all Traditions nipples.
Bore solvent: Traditions bore solvent, diluted with water, makes an excellent cleaning solution and rust inhibitor. In undiluted form it is an excellent patch lube.
Ball starter: Also known as a short starter or bullet seater, this is a very useful tool. Usually consists of a short shaft to drive the ball flush with the muzzle and a longer shaft for driving the ball farther down the barrel.
Balls: These should be of the correct size and of pure lead. .310 dia.
Powder measure: For precise measuring of load. This should be adjustable for varying loads.
Nipples: Traditions nipples are of high grade stainless steel and should last several seasons. It never hurts to keep a spare or two handy. (Traditions nipple size is M6-1.)
Nipple Wrench: No percussion shooter should be without this useful tool. Removes nipples easily for a thorough cleaning.
Powder horn or flask: These are convenient for carrying powder for dispensing into the powder measure. The Traditions cylindrical flask is particularly handy for this purpose.
Cleaning patches: Any soft cotton material will serve well.
Possibles bag: These come in many forms, are usually made of suede and are useful for carrying all accessories.

Limited Lifetime Mechanical Warranty

Traditions will warrant this muzzleloading firearm to be free of mechanical defects in materials and craftsmanship for the life of the firearm, while in the possession of the original owner. Traditions will repair or replace, at its option, product or parts which are returned to the Traditions Customer Service Department. A full explanation of the specific problem must accompany the returned item. Incidental and consequential damages are not covered by this warranty. Corrosion damages resulting from lack of cleaning or improper storage are not warranted.

This warranty shall be considered null and void if any of the following conditions are determined by the Traditions Customer Service Department:
1. Use of any propellant other than black powder or Pyrodex®.
2. Use of any powder charges in excess of those recommended.
3. Use of any plastic patching material with round balls.
4. Modification of internal parts as they were shipped from the factory.
5. Obvious neglect or abuse.

Warranty Registration Card

Model _____
Product Name/Number

Serial No. _____

Purchased From

_____
Dealer Store Name

_____
Street

_____
City State Zip

Is this your first muzzleloading firearm purchase? ❑ Yes ❑ No
Have you ever or do you plan to hunt with a muzzleloader? ❑ Yes ❑ No
Do you plan to purchase any muzzleloading accessories in the next six months? ❑ Yes ❑ No
Do you have any comments or suggestions about the product you have just purchased?

_____

Name _____

Street _____

City_____ State_____ Zip _____

Note: This card must be returned within two weeks of purchase to validate your lifetime warranty.